INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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INFO RUQMGU/AMEMBASSY ANKARA SEVEN
RUQVHN/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA NINE
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS SEVEN
RUFRCR/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES ITALY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L JULY 12

PARIS FOR BURNS, JAMES; USDOCOSOUTH FOR BURRIS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 6 MAY 1982

FOLLOWING IS WHAT PRIMIN ALLEGEDLY TOLD CABINET REGARDING SUNDAY MEETING WITH KING. (THIS VERSION HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY PALACE SOURCES). MEETING BEGAN ON RATHER COOL NOTE BUT ATMOSPHERE IMPROVED AS THE SESSION WENT ON. PRIMIN TOLD KING THERE WAS NO REAL REASON FOR SHARP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND CROWN AND THERE WAS NO PARALLEL AT THIS TIME WITH SITUATION IN 1915 WHEN ISSUE BETWEEN CONSTANTINE I AND VENIZELOS HAD BEEN ONE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE, I.E. ROLE OF GREECE AS ALLY OR

PAGE TWO RUQMAT 160A C O N F I D E N T I A L
NEUTRAL IN WORLD WAR I. THE KING THEN NOTED THAT HE WAS NOT ESPOUSING THE POSITION OF AN ABSOLUTE MONARCH AND HAD BEEN AND WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A GOOD CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCH. HE DID, HOWEVER, VOICE BITTERNESS AT THE PRESS FOR ITS INSINUATIONS THAT HE WAS TAKING ON ROLES INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE TIMES AND COMPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT PROTECTED HIM AGAINST THESE PRESS ATTACKS.

Declassified by RMR

THE PRIME MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ENTIRE POLITICAL ISSUE HAD TO BE HANDLED IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT DID NOT APPEAR TO BE A VICTORY FOR THE GOVERNMENT FORCES AND A DEFEAT FOR THE KING. THEREFORE, HE PROPOSED THAT THE CABINET AND THE CENTER UNION PARTY MEET AND AGREE TO WRITE MOD GAROUFALIAS OUT OF THE PARTY. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT GAROUFALIAS WAS OBVIOUSLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE ENTIRE CU GROUP, THE KING WOULD THEN SIGN THE DECREE. (IN THIS CONNECTION, GAROUFALIAS HAS ISSUED STATEMENT DENYING PAPANDREOU'S RIGHT TO EXPEL HIM FROM THE CU PARTY. HE NOTES IT IS NOT A PERSONAL PARTY BUT A DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MOVEMENT TO WHICH HE WILL CONTINUE TO BELONG.)

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-2- 929, December 29, 1 p.m., from Athens

Press reporting on Cyprus continues reflect government's tone of optimism, while ERE press is gloomier. EDA has now chimed in calling for session of Parliament to air Cyprus problem, at which time EDA would support referral of matter to UN, denunciation of Cyprus agreements, and argue for right of self-determination.

LABOUISSE

LMS/6

Note: Advanced Delivery to S/S-O 12/29/63 10:10 a.m. FSS

Note: Passed White House, OSD, Army, Navy, Air and CIA 12/29/63 10:20 a.m.

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THE PRIM MINISTER ALSO TOLD CABINET THAT THE KING HAD POINTED OUT THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE NO NEED TO HAVE GENNIMATAS, CHIEF OF HAGS, CHANGED AT THIS TIME, AND THE PRIMIN HAD AGREED TO SHELVE THIS ISSUE AND FOCUS ON THE NEED FOR THE PROMPT REMOVAL OF MOD GAROUFALIAS.

COMMENT: KEY QUESTION NOW IS WHETHER PRIMIN WILL INSIST ON HOLDING DEFENSE PORTFOLIO HIMSELF AFTER GAROUFALIAS REMOVED, OR WILL BE PREPARED TO HAVE THIRD PARTY (E.G. MIN PUBLIC WORKS HOUTAS, FORMIN COSTOPOULOS, OR DEP PRIMIN STEPHANOPOULOS) TAKE OVER POST. OUR ESTIMATE IS THAT KING WOULD RESIST HAVING PRIMIN TAKE PORTFOLIO WHILE ASPIDA INVESTIGATION STILL ON BUT THAT ONE OF OTHER CU CANDIDATES MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE.

ANSCHUETZ

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